Then And Now

By: Frances H. Paulette

Happy New Year! Has a nice ring to it, doesn't it? It's almost here too—a fresh new year, spreading out like a golden vista before us, a period of promise.

Along with the merriment of the New Year Celebration, the excited feeling of anticipation, we find ourselves making solomn avowals concerning what we will do with the year that is stretching ahead of us. While resolutions and happy celebrations are a large part of the New Year, there are certain customs of days gone by and of our present day and time that are interesting. Let's look at New Year's around the world.

The custom of celebrating New Year's is very old. Some accredit it to the Chinese, some to the Ancient Germans, and some to the Romans.

The Chinese have always made of the New Year an extravagant and elaborate celebration; their New Year begins several days later than ours and the Feast of Lanterns, Festival of Dragon Boats, and The Fishermans Festival lasts for several days.

The Ancient Germans looked upon the New Year as a time of putting aside all old troubles andworries; the welcoming of new duties and the promise of new bounties.

The Romans, in the days of old, presented one another with branches of trees as tokens of good luck and prosperity for the year ahead.

The Cherokee Indians used to have an elaborate New Year's Festival. On New Year's Day they would build huge fires and burn all of their old clothes, food, and utensils. The following day the festivities would begin—new apparel, new food, a whole new start. Sounds like a good way to get a whole new wardrobe, wouldn't you say?

In ancient England it was the custom to clean out the chimneys on New Year's Day so that good luck could descend and of course, remain all year long. With us it is customary to speak of "cleaning the slate" (of life) and making good resolutions so that we will be able to keep the slate clean.

The Persians of long ago had a custom of presenting one another with eggs on New Year's Day. The egg, of course, typifies creation, and the beginning of life.

In France and Spain it was the custom, (and it is still practiced today), of exchanging gifts. The people make calls to one another, extend their good wishes and leave small gifts. The custom of making New Years Calls was brought to us by the New Amsterdam Dutch, and for several centuries New Yorkers who were in the social "know-how, know-what" observed this custom, but finally went out with the bustle.

The early Japanese, no matter how poor he might have been, would don a new suit and go visit friends. Even strangers would accost one another on the streets during the New Year Festivities and exchange good wishes for the coming year.

The ringing of bells on New Year's Day originated in England long ago. It was the custom to ring muffled bells just before twelve o'clock, and at exactly twelve, to remove the wrappings and permit the bells to ring out loudly. This symbolized the thought that the old year was weak and feeble and the new year was strong and powerful. It might be likened to death knell for the old year and welcome to the new.

In the United States today, New Year's Day is celebrated in various ways. Many observe the custom of open house, but in almost every community and city it is a period of social activity. Many people still make very sure that black-eye peas and "hog jowl" will be a part of the menu for the day. I believe it is supposed to assure good luck for the coming year. Still others believe there must be plenty of assorted nuts around to nibble on during the New Year's holiday because nuts were believed to be an age-old symbol of bounty.

So, what does New Year's Celebration mean to you? Parties--football games--rich foods--or maybe in a more serious vein, a time for looking back, looking ahead, "cleaning the slate", so to speak—making a new beginning.

I would like to suggest a resolution. But first, let's praise God that we have lived to welcome another year, thank Him for His love and care, and then resolve- "Each day I will be more appreciative of all the good things of life that are mine, be less critical of others, live each day for what it is – a beautiful gift from God."

And so it's almost here, that brand-new year. May it hold health, happiness, and love for our fellowman. Happy 1977!

BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Shelton	Jan. 1
Wyatt Almond	Jan. 1
Clyde Nash	Jan. 6
Allen Harris	Jan. 6
Lucille Maxwell	Jan. 8
Louise Blackwell	Jan. 12
Graydon Maxwell	Jan.25
Tom Maxwell	Jan. 8
Ethel St. John	Jan. 19
Joe Maxwell	Jan. 27
Otis Richardson	Jan. 29
W. R. Moore	Jan. 29
Barry Maxwell	Jan. 26
Rodney Roach	Jan. 30
Dr. J. J. Bowman	Jan. 31

FIRST BAPTIST

Wonderful service was held at the First Baptist Church Sunday at 11:00 A.M. Music was rendered by the Senior Choir. Rev. Davis delivered an inspiring message. He spoke from the subject, "Why did the Father send His Son". Everyone present enjoyed the message.

We are glad to know little Terry Dillard was home for the holidays. We hope he enjoyed his stay at home, and we hope and pray he will continue to improve.

The second Sunday in January, 1977, Rev. Davis is asking every member of First Baptist to please come to church on that Sunday. We the members hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and everyone will have a Happy New Year.

Pizza Hut Open In Appomattox

THE PIZZA HUT, located on Route 460 at the Triangle Plaza Shopping Center, just west of Appomattox, opened for business at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 29, 1976.

A franchise of Pizza Hut, the Daland Company of Wichita, Kansas, the manager is Dave Hall, formerly of Murphey, North Carolina. Owners are Dale Wiggins and Norm Cash.

Mr. Hall said the Pizza Hut would welcome groups such as scouts and similar organizations to come by and learn how pizza is made. He stated, "as a business, we hope to get involved in community affairs. We also believe Appomattox is going to be good for us and we, in turn, will be good for Appomattox".

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They'll Love A Cheery Cherry Pie!

For a very cherry Christmas, try this dessert delight: Sour Cream Cherry Pie. It's a light, refreshing way to greet the holidays. You can whip it up in no time at all, and it makes a great treat for family or friends. Add a few dabs of red food coloring and you have a festive little Christmas pie. Chances are, you'll find yourself making it all year round.

Sour Cream Cherry Pie

filling:
½ cup sugar
¼ cup cornstarch
2 one-pound cans tart cherries in juice
1 teaspoon almond extract
1 cup yogurt
3 tablespoons sour cream
1½ teaspoons gelatin
red food coloring
10" graham cracker or cream cheese pie shell

topping:
1 cup whipping cream
1 tablespoon confectioners' sugar
½ teaspoon vanilla
3-4 tablespoons sour cream

Drain cherries and save the juice. Dissolve gelatin in ¾ cup of juice. Combine cherries, sugar, cornstarch and ¾ cup of juice and cook until thickened. Stir in almond extract and dissolved gelatin. Add yogurt and sour cream and mix well. Cool. Blend in red food coloring to achieve desired color. Pour the filling into 10" pie shell and refrigerate until gelatin sets.

Combine whipping cream, confectioners' sugar, vanilla and sour cream and beat to the consistency of whipping cream (about two minutes). Top off the refrigerated pie with this fluffy mixture, and voilà! you have a great holiday taste sensation!

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MAGIC TRICKS

From The Shari Lewis Magic Club

Odd Man Out

Divide a deck of cards in half. Have someone pick a card from one half and put it in the other half. Shuffle the half with the "secret" card. Fan the cards out and pick out the "secret" one.

You can learn how to do many tricks like this by reading the secrets on Dixie Magic Tricks Cups for Kids. The secret of this one was that the odd cards, Ace, 3, 5, 7, 9, Jack and King were put together before starting, and the even cards were together. Don't mix them when dividing the deck and the secret card will be the even one in the odd half or the odd one in the even half.

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SPORTS

Raiders Slip By Colonels

By Tamara Nash

The Raiders had an outstanding fourth quarter on Tuesday night, Dec. 21, when they scored 21 points and beat the Altavista Colonels 60-55.

The game was played at Altavista after the Varsity Girls' game. The Raiders led the first quarter with twelve points to a Colonel nine. Both teams scored fifteen points in the second quarter to make the score at the half, 27 to 24. The Raiders slacked off in scoring during the third quarter and the Colonels took a one point lead after scoring sixteen points. The Raiders only had twelve points in the third quarter and at the beginning of the fourth quarter the score was 40 to 39, Colonels leading. The Raiders scored 21 points in the fourth quarter and cut short the Colonels hopes for victory. The final score was 55 to 60, the Appomattox Raiders on top.

Mitch Eggleston and Bill Shorter scored up in the double figures - Mitch with 17 and Bill with 10. Tom Wingfield had eight points, Ronald Harvey had seven, James Robinson had six, and Gerald Booker had four. Joe Fraley and Cecil Booker both added three points on the Raider score, and Tony Snell had two.

For the Colonels, Tracy Poindexter had 24 points, Errette Woodruff had 10, and no other Colonel scored in the double figures for the night. The Tuesday night game brought the Raiders to a 2 win, 3 loss situation while the Colonels are now 0 for 6.

The Raiders had an excellent night from the foul line, with a 62 precent average. The Altavista team had a commendable 44 percent.

The Raiders travel to Jefferson Forest the 28th of December for their last game of '76. In overall district standings, the Raiders are in 6th place and Jefferson Forest is 7th. Come on out and cheer the Raiders to victory!!!

Altavista Defeats Raiderettes 53-34

Altavista handed the Appomattox County High School Raiderettes 53 to 34 loss when they played basketball at Altavista on December 21st.

Scoring for the Raiderettes was as follows:

Jan Stanley - 4
Carolyn Smith - 4
Connie Murray - 13
Marie Fraley - 4
Marlene Moore - 7
Roxie Martin - 2

High Scorer for Altavista was Pam Elder with 14 points followed by Suzanne McKeel with 8 points.

At the half, Altavista led the Raiderettes 30 to 10. The Raiderettes were very cold from the floor during the first half with only 5 for 25 (20%) baskets made. They were 16 for 68 for the game for 25% average. They shot only 2 for 14 from the foul line - 14%.

Altavista shot 13 for 24 (55%) in the first half and 18 for 39 (48%) for the game. They shot 17 for 27 foul shots for 63% average.

Altavista now stands 3 - 1 and Appomattox is 2 - 1.

MENS BOWLING LEAGUE

Dec. 22, 1976

Best Furn.	32	7
Rookies	29	10
500 Club	18	21
Appo. Hellcats	14	25
A & D Restaurant	14	25
Morris Garage	10	29

High Sets
Wallace Haley- 379
Ronnie Carter - 376
High Games
Ronnie Carter - 154
Wallace Haley - 130

LADIES BOWLING LEAGUE

Rollingstones	29	7
Flintstones	27	9
Mighty Mites	23	13
Topcats	21	15
Pinups	19	17
Lucky Strikes	13	23
Alley Cats	13	23
Untouchables	1	35

High Games
Ruth Trent - 114
Ellen Ragland - 114
High Set
Ruth Trent - 311
Ellen Ragland - 293

THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN
COURT ST.
APPOMATTOX VA.

Raiderettes In Christmas Tournament

The Appomattox Raiderettes will participate in a Christmas Tournament at Altavista on Thursday, December 30th and on Saturday, January 1, 1977.

The Raiderettes go against Rustburg at 6:30 p.m. on the 30th. Altavista will play Liberty in the 8 p.m. game.

The losers of these two games will play at 6:30 p.m. and the winners at 8 p.m. on January 1st. Admission will be $1.00 for all - students and adults.

The Raiderettes need your support - see you in Altavista.

DRUG EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETS

cont'd from page 1

Court, stated that his work in the area of drugs was that of providing counseling services for persons who had become involved with drugs and were placed on probation by the court.

The Social Services Department is represented on the committee by its director, Mrs. Virginia Babcock. Her areas of special interest are education and parental involvement.

Lloyd Walton, Division Superintendent, reported to the committee areas in which the school division is working to improve the educational program in drug education. These areas include the use of new health textbooks in grades 1 through 7 during the current school session, inservice sessions for school and central office staffs and use of qualified resource persons to conduct programs for students. Other activities planned include PTA programs on drugs and purchase of new health textbooks for use in grades 8-10.

Recommendations made during the meeting included continued emphasis on appropriate educational experiences for students and expanded communication with parents.

The next meeting of the committee will be held in March or April at which time additional parents will be invited to attend.

Other persons attending this meeting were Gordon Bragg, ACHS teacher; Mrs. Geraldine Clark, AMS teacher and committee secretary; Mrs. Lucy M. Harris, ACHS teacher; Mrs. Hezteine Foster, AMS Principal and Joe Ford, ACHS student and SCA President.

DRIVER'S LICENSE GETS NEW LOOK

cont'd from page 1

more of agricultural, horticultural, poultry or livestock products were sold during a year, or a farm containing 10 acres or more from which $50 or more of the above products were sold during a year; and, the vehicle must not be used for hire.

The plates will carry the words Farm Vehicle at the bottom and will be issued in a series beginning with the letter F followed by numerals.

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CLINIC TO STOP SMOKING SET FOR JAN. 2-6

cont'd from page 1

these dimensions of life toward non-smoking without the use of drugs.

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HEALTH WISE

In certain parts of the world superstitious people believe in frightening apparations called ZOMBIES. These creatures are supposed to be the walking dead, who have somehow been reactivated through sorcery. Of course, educated people know better than to believe in such fantasies, but reasonable facsimiles of Zombies are everywhere abroad in the land. you may know a few of them personally. In fact, you may even be one!

How do you know whether you qualify? It's easy to tell. Just consider these simple questions: Is the ringing of your alarm clock each morning the most unpleasant sound you can think of? Do you sit dazed on the edge of the bed for several minutes before summoning up enough strength to tackle showering and dressing? Does the morning rush deposit you at work tense as a tightly wound spring? Does your already meager store of strength begin to fade about midmorning? Is your personal midafternoon energy crisis so persistent that the rest of the day finds you merely going through the motions of working? Do you eat a large evening meal, but still find that you've only sufficient strength to make it to your favorite chair in front of the TV set? Do you doze through the late show and then collapse into bed, wondering whether there isn't more to life?

If you answered YES to most of the above questions, you qualify: you are a practicing ZOMBIE. That doesn't make you peculiar, of course, just one of the crowd.

A study was recently made to learn what people want out of life. What do you think topped the list of desires: world peace? financial gain? More than anything else, respondents listed good health. And as for fears, more than anything else, including the threat of atomic disaster, they feared ill health.

Obviously something is radically wrong. That which we most fear is almost constantly upon us, and that which we most desire seems to elude us. This is a tragic state of affairs. The purpose of this column is to help people avoid that which they most fear and to attain what they most desire.

We want to proclaim boldly that a state of illness, or even living with that "dragged out" feeling is not normal. Average, perhaps, but not normal. The basic simple health principles in this small column, if incorporated into daily life, will result in a vitality and a sense of well-being you may never have experienced before. And it won't take ten years to feel the difference. Turn in your membership card to the Zombie cult, and join those who truely live. Come alive, HEALTH WISE, now.

(Presented as a Community Service of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. For more information write: Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Rt. 2, Box 495, Appomattox, VA. 24522.)

NEW YEAR GREETINGS

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